

25 Years of Milestones and Memories

- 1994** Initial organizing meetings held by the AIDS Ministry Committee at St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, leading to the formation of a group that would soon become TIHAN
- 1994** HIV physician Dr. Kevin Carmichael invites Scott Blades to attend the weekly staffings of his HIV clinic in an effort to increase the support of his patients and connect the fledgling TIHAN organization to more people in need of CareTeam services
- 1994** The formation of TIHAN is announced, along with our first Interfaith Service of Healing and Hope, in an article in the Arizona Daily Star. The service take place on World AIDS Day, December 1
- 1995** In conjunction with the AIDS Candlelight Memorial held at Armory Park, TIHAN conducts a candlelight march to its Interfaith Service of Healing and Hope at the iconic downtown St. Augustine Catholic Cathedral
- 1995** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awards a \$25,000 startup grant to TIHAN as part of their Faith in Action initiative
- 1995** TIHAN holds a community forum “We Are Called to Care” to discuss gaps in services identified by Tucson AIDS Project, Shanti Foundation, and the People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT for Life), helping to inform TIHAN how we can best serve
- 1996** As TIHAN moves from under the umbrella of its initiator/fiscal agent St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, the organization’s Advisory Board becomes a Board of Directors, and longtime leader
- 1996** Mark Schaye is elected as the first Board President to lead the organization
- 1996** After a nationwide search, Scott Blades, who’s been serving as the unpaid TIHAN program coordinator for two years (and five years before that as a volunteer lead) is officially hired as a paid Executive Director
- 1996** Dr. Myron Morris, a retired pediatrician, begins volunteering with TIHAN. He would become one of our most vital champions and philanthropists
- 1997** Congregation Ner Tamid, a reform Jewish synagogue under the leadership of Rabbi Joseph Weizenbaum, becomes the first synagogue to officially join TIHAN’s coalition
- 1997** TIHAN decides to remain independent as three other AIDS organizations merge to become SAAF
- 1997** A group of bartenders at the Stonewall Eagle, led by Marc Brunelle, hold a benefit to raise funds for TIHAN’s programs and services, starting the Turnabout for TIHAN benefit show that has now raised over \$301,000!
- 1998** TIHAN’s Poz Café lunch and social program makes its debut with just a handful of attendees, as we serve the first of the 28,000+ meals that have been served to date
- 1998** Myron Morris and Bertie Lozano initiate the Treasures for TIHAN benefit (first auction raises \$3,800)
- 1999** TIHAN organizes a display of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt at Fort Huachuca, believed to be the first time the quilt was displayed on a US military base





- 1999** TIHAN produces a promotional video featuring Mayor George Miller, Linda Ronstadt, and other local celebrities, debuting the video at a special event held at the Tucson Botanical Gardens
- 1999** In collaboration with Carondelet Hospice and St. Mary's Hospital, TIHAN holds a Clergy Conference on AIDS, featuring Bishop Manuel Moreno of the Catholic Diocese of Tucson, educating clergy from many denominations about providing care and support for the increasing number of individuals and families impacted by AIDS
- 2000** Addressing the high level of poverty among people with HIV, TIHAN begins collecting and offering free toiletry items at our "Poz MarketPlace" held at Poz Café
- 2000** Christina Rossetti, who helped St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church form TIHAN in 1994 when she was Director of Programs at Tucson AIDS Project, facilitates the TIHAN Board's first strategic planning process
- 2000** TIHAN helps form the Kente Project, a coalition to address the disproportionate rate of HIV in the African-American community
- 2001** TIHAN's administrative office moves from donated space (300 sq ft) at St. Francis UMC to an 1,110 sq ft office on Alvernon and 5th St
- 2001** TIHAN hires Sarah Pratt to become our first Program Coordinator
- 2001** Beth Daum, a member of Lutheran Church of the Foothills, is elected as President of TIHAN's Board of Directors (becoming the first woman to serve as President)
- 2001** The Denver-based Gill Foundation selects Tucson as a site for a series of capacity-building trainings to support nonprofits in the LGBT and HIV communities, and TIHAN's Board benefits greatly from the leadership and skill trainings
- 2002** Hollywood actress Judith Light, well known for her role on "Who's the Boss?" is the keynote speaker at TIHAN's Interfaith Service of Healing at Hope at AIDSWalk, a benefit for SAAF
- 2002** TIHAN and SAAF, along with Casa Gloriosa (a Christian group providing residential services primarily for women and children affected by AIDS), begin collaborating on a combined holiday event that pools resources for people with AIDS throughout Southern Arizona
- 2002** TIHAN's HIV+ staff member Jim Valiton selected to participate in the Olympic Torch Run through Tucson
- 2002** Addressing the disproportionate impact of HIV on African-American communities, TIHAN initiates a local commemoration of the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS, focused on HIV education
- 2002** Beloved community member Lacey Laws passes away, leading to a sustained legacy of AIDS awareness and support for TIHAN
- 2003** TIHAN conducts a clergy roundtable to increase HIV understanding
- 2003** Under the leadership of Audrey Holland and Tim Olcott, Esq., TIHAN begins a planned giving program to encourage donors to consider leaving part of their estate to support our programs
- 2003** The Community Foundation of Southern Arizona awards its first grant funding to support TIHAN
- 2004** AIDS activist Cleve Jones, founder of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, speaks at a benefit event jointly sponsored by TIHAN and SAAF
- 2004** Poz Café named by the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona as one of the three most innovative nonprofit programs
- 2004** Kalyrn Stith and Lindi Laws take Treasures for TIHAN to a new level, with a marked 39% increase in income

- 2005** TIHAN has 25 volunteer CareTeams supporting people living with HIV
- 2006** Under the leadership of Kalyn Stith and Terri Zarling, Treasures for TIHAN raises a record-setting \$106,000
- 2006** TIHAN moves its office to Speedway and Craycroft, transitioning from an 1,114 sq ft office to 2,100 sq ft
- 2006** TIHAN organizes Tucson clergy to take HIV tests and write a newspaper Op-Ed as part of National HIV Testing Day
- 2006** TIHAN's annual income from donations reaches \$250,000, a new milestone
- 2007** Building on the success of TIHAN's CareTeam and Poz Café programs, the agency begins a new Link Specialist program that connects volunteers with people living with HIV to provide additional resources, connections, and support
- 2007** TIHAN collaborates on the local commemoration of National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, and our volunteer Consuelo Lucero receives the Community Leadership Award
- 2007** TIHAN provides the keynote presentation at Arizona's 2007 White House Conference on HIV and Community Initiatives (Phoenix)
- 2007** Kim Talerico joins the TIHAN staff as our Volunteer Coordinator
- 2007** In recognition of their significant philanthropy, TIHAN formally names our office conference room the "Barbara Kaller-Cohen and Kenny Cohen Conference Room"
- 2008** An endowment fund established at the Community Foundation by Dr. Myron Morris provides its first annual funding to TIHAN
- 2008** Poz Café, which has become the largest regular gathering place for people living with HIV, serves our 10,000th meal (with Randy Decker as the lucky recipient of that milestone meal)
- 2008** TIHAN volunteer AnnMarie, a wife and mother living with HIV, speaks about her journey at the National Faith In Action conference of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Phoenix, accompanied by Beth Daum and Scott Blades
- 2008** TIHAN receives the Harriett Tubman Vanguard Award from the Coalition for African American Health and Wellness in appreciation for being an "outstanding and unwavering" community supporter for health and wellness
- 2009** In conjunction with our Treasures for TIHAN benefit, TIHAN honors "10 Mothers Who Make a Difference": Lindi Laws, Jean Baker, Linda Ronstadt, Consuelo Lucero, Bridget Stith, Mary Stoute, Georgeannie Figueroa, Soozie Hazan, Terri Zarling, and Ann Baldwin
- 2009** In recognition of his outstanding volunteer efforts over the years, Dean R. Taylor is presented with TIHAN's highest honor, our "Excellence in Caring" award
- 2009** The Great Recession makes a severe impact on donations to TIHAN, with a downturn in contributions (annual income would not return to 2008 levels until 10 years later, in 2018)
- 2009** TIHAN invited to the Interfaith HIV/AIDS Summit in Atlanta, convened by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- 2011** In conjunction with the 30th anniversary of AIDS, TIHAN publishes an Op-Ed in the Arizona Daily Star
- 2011** For the first time, the number of people living with HIV served by TIHAN exceeds 300 in one year
- 2011** TIHAN holds its first Resource Fair for people with HIV at Poz Café
- 2011** Dr. Noel Matkin, a two-term president of the Board of Directors, receives our Excellence in Caring Award
- 2012** Kris Marsh, outgoing board president and one of TIHAN's earliest supporters, is presented with TIHAN's "Excellence in Caring" award



- 2012** Thanks to a generous offer from William and Deborah Scott, TIHAN moves its offices to 2660 North First Avenue, its current location
- 2013** Addressing the high level of food insecurity among people living with HIV, TIHAN creates its first edition of the Food Resource Guide, listing places for hot meals, food boxes, farmer’s markets, and more
- 2013** Steve Trujillo, a beloved TIHAN volunteer who served as a President of TIHAN’s Board of Directors as well as with CODAC and El Rio Special Immunology Associates and many national organizations, passes away
- 2013** Deirdre Demers is hired as TIHAN’s Program Manager, starting what would become her tenure as TIHAN’s longest-serving program staff member
- 2013** TIHAN holds its first "Living Well with HIV" class
- 2013** Our greatest benefactors Ken Sullivan and Jerry Geller pass away, leaving their legacy: a \$900,000+ gift to TIHAN, provided over multiple years
- 2014** Poz Café serves its 20,000th meal, with Tim Haver receiving the milestone meal
- 2014** The Pima County Board of Supervisors issues an official proclamation honoring TIHAN’s 20 years of serving the community
- 2014** TIHAN CarePartners create special red ribbon edition Ben’s Bells as a community service project
- 2014** Treasures for TIHAN, our signature fundraising event, has a very successful auction benefit with a “Red Party” theme
- 2015** The Swinging@AIDS Golf Tournament, a joint benefit for TIHAN and a school for children affected by HIV in Kenya, makes its successful debut
- 2015** TIHAN Operations Manager Mark Rosenbaum is named one of the “POZ 100” by POZ magazine
- 2016** Our Living Well with HIV program celebrates its first graduating class of people living with HIV
- 2016** Arizona Daily Star newspaper highlights four of TIHAN’s founding members (and 22-year volunteers): Jane Perri, Janet Smith, Linda Girard, and Carol Bogg
- 2016** TIHAN and Scott Blades receive the United Methodist Church's Global AIDS Leadership Award at a conference in Portland
- 2016** TIHAN helps coordinate a powerful march and candlelight vigil on the evening after the massacre at Pulse nightclub in Orlando
- 2017** TIHAN distributes its 15,000th care package filled with toiletry, cleaning, and personal care items
- 2017** Phil Moul retires as TIHAN’s volunteer webmaster after more than a decade of service
- 2017** Major donors Mike Steinberg and Alan Taylor, married after 35 years together, are honored for their generosity to TIHAN at our Turnabout benefit show
- 2018** Phoenix-based Aunt Rita’s Foundation provides a substantial grant to support TIHAN’s programs and services, its first ever funding to an HIV service organization outside of Maricopa County
- 2019** TIHAN commemorates 25 years of serving the community, thanks to you and so many others



**Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens
 can change the world: indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.**
 — Margaret Mead

